

Message Text

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22/10

ACTION AF-06

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12 OMB-01 /071 W

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O R 081450Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3483

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIA 0035

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT GARBLED PARA 4)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US, AO

SUBJECT: SIAD EMISSARY TO PRESIDENT FORD -- ANGOLA

WITH HIM AT 1300 HRS LOCAL JAN 8. HE EXPLAINED AT OUR MEETING THAT PRESIDENT SIAD TOLD HIM TO INFORM ME URGENTLY THAT HE WAS SENDING QTE SPECIAL EMISSARY UNQTE TO PRESIDENT FORD WITH PERSONAL LETTER FROM SIAD. EMISSARY IS SECSTATE FOR FINANCE NUR HERSI. SIAD REQUESTED THAT I INFORM MY AUTHORITIES IMMEDIATELY AND DO WHATEVER POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD.

2. I TOLD BARRE THAT I WOULD INFORM DEPARTMENT BUT COULD NOT RPT NOT GIVE HIM ANY ASSURANCES THAT PRESIDENT FORD WOULD SEE HERSI. I ASKED WHETHER AMBASSADOR ADDOU HAD BEEN INFORMED AND LEARNED HE

HAS NOT. I THEN ASKED BARRE FOR DETAILS OF HERSI'S TRIP AND CONTENTS OF LETTER. BARRE SAID THAT SUBJECT WAS ANGOLA AND THEN SUPECULATED THAT OTHER BILATERAL SUBJECTS MIGHT BE RAISED BUT ADMITTED THAT HE WAS GUESSING REGARDING LATTER. IN REPLY TO MY QUESTION ABOUT
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QTE SPECIAL EMISSARY UNQTE BARRE SAID THAT SECSTATE FOR FINANCE

HERSI LEAVES FRO ROME VIA SOMALIA AIRWAYS ON SATURDAY JANUARY 10 TO ATTEND MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON (BARRE WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO PURPOSE OF MEETINGS BUT ASSUMED THAT THEY WERE WITH IBRD AND INVOLVED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA) I TOLD BARRE THAT I WOULD PASS REQUEST TO WASHINGTON BUT AGAIN REMINDED HIM THAT I COULD GIVE NO ASSURANCES THAT MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE.

3. BARRE ALSO INFORMED ME TODAY THAT PRESIDENT SIAD WILL DEPART MOGADISCIO FOR OA SSUMMIT IN ADDIS ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 10 AND EXPECTS BE THERE FOR ANGOLAN DEBATES AT LEAST FOUR DAYS.

4. COMMENT: SIAD'S POLICY LINE ON ANGOLA IS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL TO THAT OF SOVIET UNION AND THERE APPEARS TO BE LITTLE THAT HE COULD SAY TO US ABOUT ANGOLA THAT HAS NOT RPT NOT ALREADY BEEN COMMUNICATED IN BOTH WORD AND DEED. DEPT WILL RECALL THAT IT WAS SIAD HIMSELF WHO CALLED FOR URGENT MEETING OF OAU SUMMIT LAST NOVEMBER WHEN MPLA'S TACTICAL ADVANTAGES IN ANGOLA WERE CRUMBLING AND DID SO AT TIME WHEN NERVOUS SOVIET AMBASSADORS IN AFRICA SUDDENLY BEGAN MAKING THEIR HOUSE CALLS ON OBLIGING LEADERS AROUND CONTINENT IN ATTEMPT TO STEM TIDE OF MPLA REVERSES. SIAD HIMSELF WASTED LITTLE TIME RECOGNIZING MPLA, EXTENDING DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION TO MPLA GOVT ON DAY OF INDEPENDENCE. DEPT WILL ALSO RECALL THAT SIAD WAS PAST CHAIRMAN OF OAU AND IN THAT CAPACITY MET WITH PRESIDENT FORD AT WHITE HOUSE IN OCTOBER, 1974 -- ONE OF FEW AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE TO HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS AFRICAN EROBLEMS WITH THE PRESIDENT.

5. WE SUSPECT THEREFORE THAT SIAD'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE VIEWED IN CONTEXT OF HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO OAU SUMMIT IN ADDIS, WHERE FOR HISTRIONIC PURPOSES HE WILL TELL HIS AFRICAN COLLEAGUES THAT HE HAS SENT EMISSARY WITH LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD APPEALING TO HIM TO WITHDRAW ALL SUPPORT FOR UNITA AND FLNA FORCES, ETC. IF SIAD'S LATEST MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT IS SIMILIAR IN ANY WAY TO HIS EARLIER MESSAGE REGARDING SOVIET FACILITIES AT BERBERA, HE WILL ALSO SAY THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAS ERRED IN FOLLOWING INFORMATION SUPPLIED TO HIM BY HIS ADVISORS AND IS AGAIN VICTIM OF BAD ADVICE.

6. DEPT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER -- DRAWING ON PRESIDENT'S EARLIER MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD IN OCT 1974 WHEN AFRICAN

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PROBLEMS WERE DISCUSSED -- PRESIDENT MIGHT WISH SEND MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SIAD PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR ADDIS SETTING FORTH US POSITION ON ANGOLA IN CLEAR AND UNMISTAKABLE TERMS.
LOUGHRAN

1. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ABDURAHMAN JAMA BARRE ASKED ME TO MEET

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